

OUT OF THE LAND OF THE MOABITES

By Don Krider

God is making a visitation by His Spirit, but we have to get committed. If you are not getting blessed in the situation you are in or the condition you are in, it's time to move on. If you are trying to walk in the flesh and get blessed of God, forget it. If you are trying to follow after worldly emotion and get blessed, forget it. You are going to have to get committed to the word of God. You are going to have to move in. As Paul says, you are going to have to separate yourself unto God.

(2 Cor. 6:17 KJV) Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, (18) And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

I love to be blessed, but I know that if some areas of my life are not blessed, it is because I am trying to control them by my flesh.

We are going to look at the book of Ruth.

(Ruth 1:1 KJV) Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled,

When men rule, you are going to have problems. We know that this was a system set up so men could take care of situations under and with the mind of God. But I want to tell you, too many people who are Christians have decided that they would replace God and begin to judge - begin to move into areas of guiding people who have no ability to guide themselves. So in the land in that day there were judges; but if you go on you find something happened: there comes a famine.

...that there was a famine in the land.

It always happens when man is in charge. There is always a famine. That's why there are so many people running around here and there, trying to receive a blessing from God because man is feeding things to the Church that aren't even from God. They are misinterpreting scriptures. They are taking their own thoughts, they are putting in their own plan, they are putting in their own ideas and they say, "I don't know why the Church is not being blessed." I want to tell you, just because you have a big Church doesn't mean the blessing of God is upon it. Because there is a multitude of people doesn't mean the blessing of God is upon it. Whenever man rules and man interprets God's word, you are going to have a famine in your life sooner or later.

Down in Ruth 1:6, something begins to happen. As you read it, you see that there is a good report that comes back now; there is a report that God has visited Bethlehem- Judah with bread. Naomi had heard the report, and she acted on it.

(Ruth 1:6 KJV) Then she arose with her daughters-in-law, that she might return from the country of Moab: for she had heard in the country of Moab how that the Lord had visited his people in giving them bread.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35).

(John 6:32 KJV) Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

(33) For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. (34) Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. (35) And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

God has visited the Church and God is revisiting through the power of the Holy Spirit, bringing back into the Church those things which were lost. I mean moved away, hidden away from us, because we chose many times to walk after the flesh. What we need to do is move out of the land of famine and into the land of blessing. We need to go back again where the blessing of God was poured out - where we didn't care if we shouted, we didn't care if we danced, we didn't care who sat next to us, we didn't care who was in the Church. All we knew was that we loved Jesus and Jesus was there, and we were getting blessed in the power and the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

God is bringing bread back to the Church. He's uncovering what has been covered up. He's removing men, He's removing flesh, He's removing carnality, and He's bringing the Church into a spiritual walk with Him. The blessing of God is going to be poured out in a mighty way. My wife and I were in a Church in northern Calif. recently. A young lady had been there four nights with us and she didn't do anything except smile. She was very quiet. But the last night we were all praising God and I was down in the front, and here came this young lady right by me, but she is not walking. She is doing cartwheels all the way down the aisle. After the service she was just glowing. She was so blessed she couldn't contain herself. She told us that she had a ruptured disc in her back and she said God spoke to her and told her, "If you will turn a cartwheel, I will heal you!" He didn't say, "If you go down there and get anointed, or you go down there and get somebody's hands on you." She turned cartwheels all the way down there. I know it's not very much like a Lutheran or a Methodist, but let me tell you, there are times when the Holy Spirit tells you to move into a ridiculous situation; do something that is way beyond your natural ability and your natural mind. She turned those cartwheels and after the service she was completely healed. There was no pain; everything was taken care of. God had visited Bethlehem-Judah with bread. It was the bread of healing; it was the bread of life.

I'm telling you the Church needs to be so stirred up today. It needs to be so stirred up seeking after the things of God, seeking after the anointing of God. The baptism of the Holy Ghost came on a day when the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was there. It was not to the general public; it was to the Church. It was not to the religious segment of the synagogues; it was to the Church, the born-again, the believer, the one who desired to have the things of God. They separated themselves unto God.

When the Holy Ghost came those people acted like drunks. People who saw them thought they were drunk. There were probably people turning cartwheels; there were probably people dancing; there were probably people shouting. Who knows what was going on.

"Well, Brother Krider, we have to be respectable." What you call respectable and what God calls respectable are two different things. You see, when you let men judge they are going to put rules on you. You are going to move into the land of the Moabites, and they are separated from God. I mean, they are totally separated from God. But I want to tell you, there came a report which said, "You have to move, Naomi. You are not going to get it here. You are not going to get it in the land of the Moabites. You are not going to get it in the land of flesh. You are not going to get it in the land of carnality. But I have poured out My Spirit. I am bringing bread again to Bethlehem-Judah." I want you to know that she got up and she began to get ready to move on out of town.

If some of us Christians would move out, there would be a lot of people follow us. If we would get out of

our staunch, religious outfits, and begin to move in the Spirit of God and really say what God told us to say, some things would begin to happen.

It's time for the Church to separate itself to God - spirit, soul and body. It's a terrible thing that we are having to make the Church convenient for people. We travel all over this land and there are Churches that are not having service because it is inconvenient. Don't get angry, but think about this for a moment. We are having to make everything convenient for people so they will serve God. You have to get it warm enough or cold enough.

Listen, the Spirit of God will move anywhere, whether it is hot or cold. It depends on where we are. If we are not separated from the flesh, if we are still living in the land of the Moabites, don't expect too many blessings from God. If you have to have people interpret the word of God the way you want to hear it and how you want to hear it, don't expect the blessing of God. But when you develop the ear to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church, He's going to visit Bethlehem-Judah. He's going to break bread again, hallelujah! We are all going to eat and we are all going to get fat on the things of God and we are going to move in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Naomi heard that there had been a visitation. She didn't say, "Well, I am going to think about moving over there again. I remember that land when it was all dry." We can't remember the failures of the church; we can't remember the failures of individuals; we can't remember the dryness of services. We have to begin to look for the visitation of the Holy Spirit. We have to begin to desire to separate ourselves unto God that we might be blessed of God.

Somebody said to me one time, "Brother Krider, I don't know, I just don't have any prosperity." I said, "That's your fault; you are living in the flesh." Whenever it is time to give, and you hold on to the wallet - that's flesh. Then you want God to pour out His blessing on you. It doesn't work that way. You have to learn to give; you have to be a person who is walking in the Spirit. Bethlehem-Judah - that's the Church. He's not blessing outside the Church.

I don't care who you are, He's not blessing outside the Church. He's blessing IN the Church. He's blessing the Church, and the Church is taking the blessing so that the world can see it. If you are not getting blessed, you are still living in the land of the Moabites. If you are not getting blessed it's not God's fault, it's not the preacher's fault. It's your fault because you are still in the land of the Moabites.

You want men to rule over you. You want judges. You want somebody to make you feel good. But let me tell you something, what should make you feel good is the Holy Spirit. What should make us feel good is being obedient to the Holy Spirit. Moses never got blessed as long as he was a part of Egypt. Moses never got blessed as long as he was taking care of the sheep. Moses got blessed when he did what God told him to do. It was when he separated himself, walked down to old Pharaoh, and said, "Let my people go," and the blessing of God began to pour out on him. He began to see miracles; he began to see things happen and become a part of the miracle power of God like he had never known before. When he moved on into where God wanted him, God spoke to him face to face.

If you are having somebody come between you and God, you need help. Look at Eph 2:5-6.

(Eph 2:5 KJV) Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) (6) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

God didn't raise us up and seat us together in heavenly place so He didn't have to look down at us, but so He could talk right across, face-to-face as a man speaketh to his friend. He raised you up. He took you out of Moabite land; He took you out of the Moabite bondage and brought you into the land that flows with milk and honey spiritually. But somehow we dried out and moved back to the Moabite land. We got religious and moved on over to the dry land. We forgot what it was like to really have a sense of walking with Christ, really receiving a blessing of God. We got comfortable in the land of the Moabites and began to multiply ourselves just like Naomi and her husband did, and sometimes God just has to kill off everything to get our attention.

I don't like it over there in the land of the Moabites. I don't like it over there where flesh dictates to me what I am going to do; where I have to be led by a feeling. I have to be led by some kind of a spiritual goose pimple or something. I want to be led by the Spirit of God for they are the sons of God which are led by the Spirit of God (Romans 8:14). When the Church finally stands up and becomes what it really is intended to be, the world is going to look at it and say, "I want some of that," just like they did in the Upper Room.

As long as Peter and the other disciples followed Jesus, the people didn't want much of what they had. But let me tell you, on the Day of Pentecost when they moved over into the land of Bethlehem-Judah, when they moved into the spiritual realm, when they moved into where the Spirit was moving, people began to say, "What must we do to be saved. Listen, we want some of whatever you have. We don't understand it all but we want it. By the way, what is it?"

I tell you the Church is coming into a time of refreshing and renewal like it's never walked in before, but that's up to me if I am going to be in it. If I just stand over here and starve to death, be hungry, and criticize others for what they are doing for God, I won't be in the move of God. We have friends who have a puppet ministry, and I like it because there is some spiritual truth that comes out of that. You see, whatever land you live in is how you see things. In Church one night, I walked up to a tall brother who was sitting down, and he said, "You are tall." It's kind of a perspective, you know. When you are sitting down, I look tall; when you are standing up, I look small. So God seated us all together; nobody is standing up. God seated us so we are all the same size.

God is saying to us, "As long as you remain in the land of the Moabites, all that is ever going to happen over there is termites, dryness, and people whispering in your ear and judging everything that is going on. But when you move over into the land of Bethlehem-Judah, I want you to know that there is bread on the table, there is new wine to drink, there is plenty of everything. There is as much shouting as you can shout, there is as much dancing as you can dance, there is as much victory as you can use. Everything has been set on the table in the house of God because you were obedient. You separated yourself and you came out from among them and you became My people and I became your God." God began to bless you.

That's how Ruth got in on the blessing. She made a commitment; she said, "I'm going with you. Hallelujah, I'm going with you"(Ruth 1:16-17). She knew Naomi had something she never really had, even though she married her son and became her daughter-in-law. I could just see the gleam in Naomi's eyes, couldn't you? I could just see the song in her heart. I could just see the feeling of joy in her soul. "I'm going back home again; I am going to get some of that bread that God has put on the table. I am going to get some of that good stuff!"

God doesn't care where you live or where you go to Church, or even what you wear. God isn't concerned with these things. He doesn't look at the outward appearance. He looks at the heart (1 Sam 16:7), and He wants to bless you! Amen! He wants to bless you!

We have to move out of the land of the Moabites. We have to get out of the land of judgment, criticism, and bondage, and get over again into the freedom of God and say, "Here am I, Lord." We have to be a people who have separated ourselves unto God and then people will say, "I want some of what you have. Wherever you go I am going to go. I am going to find out what you have. I am going to find out what makes you so happy. I am going to find out what makes you so blessed. I am going to follow you around; I mean, you aren't getting rid of me because where you lodge that is where I am going to lodge. Why, I am even going to change people; your people are going to become my people. I am getting rid of this Moabite identification. I am getting rid of this carnality. I am getting rid of this carnal identification. I want to be identified with your people. I want to be identified with your God."

The Church's failure, if there is a failure, is because we have sown to the flesh. We have let judges set over us and judge everything we do. We become respecters of persons; but when it's the Holy Ghost, my friend, there is no respect of persons. You don't care who God uses; He can use a child, He can use an old man, He can use a young lady, He can use an older woman. It doesn't make any difference as long as it is the bread from heaven; as long as it is the bread that feeds your soul; as long as it is the bread that satisfies you; as long as it is the bread that heals you; as long as it is the bread that brings joy to you.

The blessing of God is not when we are intellectual, religious people, walking in flesh. The blessing comes when we walk in the Spirit. Think about it for a minute. Glory to God! God is so real. We forget that we are family. We forget that we come together as His family. The world is not our family; the people of the world are not our people. The people right next to you and around you. Look at the account in Matt 12:46-50 of what Jesus said:

(Matt. 12:46 KJV) While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. (47) Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. (48) But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? (49) And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! (50) For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

We need to start getting identified with people who are doing the will of God, then your children and your grandchildren will probably want some of what you have. They have had religion, they have seen religion, they have been in churches, they have seen those who go to church for two hours and then go home and talk about the preacher. They have seen all the complaining, the murmuring, the grumbling about this one and that one. When you walk in the Spirit you begin to live and dwell in the Spirit, and you don't have time to talk about people. Your mind is upon the Lord and He is the subject of your table. He is the subject of your laying down. He is the subject of your rising up. He is the subject of your going forth. He is the subject of your coming in.

I don't care what the world does but I would sure like to see some people saved out of it. We have to get into a place where we are praying first of all for ourselves. That is why Jesus said, "Watch and pray lest you enter into temptation"(Matt 26:41). It is so easy to become complacent and move back over into the land of the Moabites because that is comfortable over there; it doesn't require anything. You can complain all you want to and you can grumble all you want to because there isn't anybody listening to you anyhow.

I want to live, walk, move, and have my being in Christ Jesus. I want to live in the land that flows with milk

and honey. I want to live in the land of revelation. I want to live in the land of joy, peace, and righteousness in the Holy Ghost. I want to live in that land but I have to separate myself; everybody can't live there. Religious people can't live there. You have to be born again to live there. You have to have a new birth certificate. You have to have a birth registered in heaven. I don't care how many times you join the Church, that isn't going to get you born again. It isn't how many times you have gone to Church. I have news for you though; when you get in the land I live in, you like to go to Church.

This stuff is real. This is not something somebody dreamed up and said, "Here, isn't this good!" So we look at this story and we know it is a true account, an accurate record, because Ruth became the great-grandmother of David (Ruth 4:13-22), the greatest King Israel ever had. There is a blessing for your offspring when you move out of the Moabite land. There is a blessing for your offspring when you are where the bread of life is, where the visitation of God is. Our hope is in Him, isn't it? Our hope is in Christ.

Now we can live where we want to live. God is wonderful; He lets us do that. But if you are all dried up, and are almost spiritually dead, it's probably because you are living over in the land of the Moabites. Did you ever notice those kinds of people always have 'bites' behind their name, or 'ites', or 'hites'. They are always in there, you know. We need to move over where Christ lives and dwells. We need to move into the fullness of Christ.

No building would be able to hold the people who wanted to be here with us. We would have to block off the streets and have Church together. We would have to block off the alleys because they would be filled. The tops of buildings would be filled with people looking down and wanting to be a part of what was going on when they began to see the joy, peace, and the righteousness of God exhibited. We cannot have it in the flesh. No! That's why I said, "You have to die to that stuff." That's why you have to mortify the deeds of the flesh by the Spirit of God.

Did you ever notice when you go on a diet how hungry you get? My wife and I were on a diet, and she was saying she would sure like to have a piece of pie, or a potato; you know, all that stuff. She said, "I think I am just going to have to mortify it." I said, "Yeah, because after you eat that stuff you feel sorry that you ate it because you were on a diet and you lost all the ground you gained." When you live over here in the Spirit, you can eat all the spiritual food you want. You can have all the spiritual steak you want, all the spiritual milk shakes, all the spiritual banana and peanut butter and everything you want. It's right there in the Kingdom of God. It will be a place of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Spiritually, your address ought to be the Kingdom of God. So, what is going to happen? Are you really going to move out of the land of the Moabites and move into the wonderful work and residence of the Holy Spirit? Or are you going to be saved and then just live over there in the land of the Moabites and be drained all of your life, be critical all your life, never be successful in spiritual things at all. I can't move you over into the Kingdom of God. No matter how big someone is, they can't move me over there. You might throw me out the door but you can't move me into the Kingdom of God.

I used to feel so sorry because people would sit in the Church and look like they had been sucking on lemons and were baptized in ammonia juice. They would keep looking at their watch. They just endured the service. They would hold on as long as they could hold on, but when the service was over, they couldn't wait to get out.

Then there is that bunch of folks who just don't want to leave the Church. You can hardly get them out to

close the door, and then they stand on the sidewalk or in the parking lot and continue to fellowship. We need to be the people who rejoice and are glad when they can say, "Let us go to the house of the Lord because this is where the saints of God gather together."

This is where the word of God, the bread of life is. We can break it and share it together. We won't hear anybody breaking judgment, criticism, or hatred or anger. We will hear them breaking the bread of life, so when we go out of here we will have gained a few spiritual pounds. Hallelujah! When I go out of here I want to be bigger than when I came in. I want to be stronger than when I came in. I want to be more able to rejoice than when I came in. But you know, as much as you try to move me into the Kingdom, you can't do it. As much as I want you and everybody else in the Kingdom, I can't get you there. It has to be a freewill act just like it was with Naomi, just like it was with Moses. It has to be an act of your own free will.

I made up my mind. I don't want to live in the land of the Moabites anymore because I've heard that God has visited and I want to be where He has visited. I want to move where He's visiting. There is a revival; there is a great revival in the land today. I mean, people are turning cartwheels in the church and getting healed. I have seen a lot of stuff like that in my life, but that was the funniest thing I have ever seen and it was great.

I have been in a lot of Churches like that and if they are not that way when I get there, they are usually that way by the time I leave. I want to tell you something; that was a refreshing time. The Pastor called me later and he said, "Oh, we are so glad you came." It wasn't because I came. It was because the Holy Spirit visited, and this woman moved out of the land of the Moabites and she got into the land where God had visited. When she did, God said, "I will heal you if you do what I tell you; you turn a cartwheel." Don't say, "Well, I would never do anything like that because, after all, I have a reputation." You don't have a reputation. Jesus made himself of "no reputation" and we are supposed to be like Him. Look at Phil 2:5-7:

(Phil 2:5 KJV) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (6) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:(7) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

So, what we need to do today is determine if we are living in the Kingdom of God. I don't know if you are living there or not, but if you are living in the land of the Moabites today, or even if you feel you are living in the Kingdom, let us make this our prayer:

"Lord, I am going to commit myself to moving over to the land of Bethlehem-Judah, because I want to be where the Lord visits. I don't care how much I was multiplied in the flesh; that doesn't help my spirit. If I gained the whole world but lost my own soul, that wouldn't help me. I am going to follow you, Lord. I am going to move with you. I am going to go where you go. I am going to lodge where you lodge. I am going to change my people. I am going to be identified with You. I am tired of being identified with the world. I am tired with being identified with flesh."

Lord, all of us make that our prayer. We pray that as others study this little booklet, they will be moved to come into the Kingdom of God also. We love You and praise You, Lord. Amen!"